

Torrance, California
July 9, 1946

MINUTES OF A PUBLIC HEARING
HELD BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
ON JULY 9, 1946.

At 7:15 P.M. July 9, 1946, the City Council of the City of Torrance convened in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, for the purpose of considering an appeal of J. F. Gorman for permission to operate a trailer park on the south side of Pacific Coast Highway, between Neece and Ocean Avenues.

Mayor Sherfey called the meeting to order. Councilmen present: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. Absent: None.

Mayor Sherfey read the Notice of Public Hearing in full, which gave the date, hour and nature of the appeal, and advised that the petition had been denied by the Planning Commission June 4, 1946 and invited all interested persons to present approvals or disapprovals to the City Clerk's Office for this hearing.

Mayor Sherfey stated that, at the time the Planning Commission arrived at its determination in this matter, there had been eight protests and no approvals filed. He then asked Clerk Bartlett to read protests or approvals received by him in the interim for this hearing, which Clerk Bartlett proceeded to do as follows:

A communication was read from the WALTERIA Civic Organization, referring to, and enclosing, copies of letters sent the City Council and the Planning Commission heretofore protesting the rezoning or granting of a variance for a trailer park adjacent to the WALTERIA City Park located on Pacific Coast Highway and Ocean Avenue, being the property involved in this hearing.

It was stated in the letter from the WALTERIA Civic Organization that the opinions expressed in letters sent heretofore have not been altered in any way.

A second communication from WALTERIA was read, bearing nineteen (19) signatures, vigorously protesting the granting of a Variance to Mr. Gorman to allow him to construct or install a trailer camp or park on the property along the south side of Pacific Coast Highway between Ocean Avenue and Neece Avenue in WALTERIA, and giving detailed reasons for protesting.

Upon request of Councilman Powell, Clerk Bartlett reread the letter from the Planning Commission, dated June 11, 1946, which was read at a meeting of the City Council on June 11, 1946, wherein the Planning Commission advised of its action in rejecting the Petition for Variance of J. F. Gorman to permit operation of a trailer camp on the south side of Pacific Coast Highway between Ocean and Neece Avenues.

In reply to Mayor Sherfey's inquiry relative to present number of protests and approvals, Mr. Patrick advised that, up to the time of this hearing, there were six protests and eighteen approvals on file with the Planning Commission.

Mayor Sherfey called for additional written protests or approvals, and oral protests or approvals from anyone who may be desirous of entering same at this time.

Councilman Powell commented that the number of protests and approvals received in this matter indicate that the majority of the interested persons oppose the plan, whereupon Councilman Powell moved that the City Council sustain the action of the Planning Commission, who, on June 5, 1946, considered Case No. 45, Petition for Variance of J. F. Gorman to permit the operation of a trailer camp on the south side of Pacific Coast Highway, between Ocean Avenue and Neece Avenue. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion.

Councilman Gilbert suggested that, before taking a vote on the motion, Mr. Gorman be allowed to make whatever statements he may desire to make relative to this case. Mr. Gorman, who was present, availed himself of this opportunity and reviewed the case orally, after which he thanked the Council for hearing the facts of the case.

A question arose as to whether or not all the signatures of the persons protesting are those of persons within a three hundred foot radius of the property involved, at which time Attorney Willett advised that, in matters of variance or rezoning requests, although all persons within a three hundred foot radius of the exterior boundaries of the property in question must be notified by mail of the filing of the petition and date of hearing, they, and anyone else who may feel justified in so doing, may enter protests or approvals.

At this time, Clerk Bartlett was handed a communication, which he proceeded to read, being a protest from Joel Hagberg of Walteria, Past President of Walteria Civic Organization.

A vote was taken upon the motion made by Councilman Powell, seconded by Councilman Tolson, and set forth fully above, to sustain the action of the Planning Commission, which motion was carried unanimously.

Councilman Gilbert stated that, in the future, the Walteria park, to which this property is adjacent, will undoubtedly be inadequate to serve the community needs, and suggested that the property in question would answer the need of park expansion if Mr. Gorman would consider selling it to the City.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the City Clerk be authorized to contact Mr. J. F. Gorman and endeavor to determine his attitude toward selling the property owned by him adjacent to the Walteria Park, and that, if agreeable terms can be reached, the City consider purchase of same. Mayor Sherfey seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

At 7:40 P.M., the Public Hearing in the J.F. Gorman Petition for Variance matter (Planning Commission Case No. 45), was declared officially ended, whereupon the Council, on motion of Councilman Tolson, seconded by Councilman Gilbert, recessed the meeting until 7:45 P.M.



CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:



MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE